# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

ROMESA M. HARDY,

Plaintiff,

VS.

Jury Demanded

MADISON DEARBORN PARTNERS, INC.

Defendant. MAGISTRATE SIDNEY I. SCHENKIER

#### **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff ROMESA M. HARDY ("Hardy"), by her attorneys Terence J. Moran, Frederick S.

Rhine, and Gessler Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym, Ltd., complaining of defendant MADISON DEARBORN PARTNERS, INC. ("MDP") states as follows:

#### NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This action arises out of MJP's racially discriminatory treatment of Hardy during her employment with MDP and its racially discriminatory termination of Hardy's employment. The action is brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1981 ("Section 1981").

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343(a)(3).
- 3. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because MDP resides in this district, its unlawful employment practices were committed in this district and because the events giving rise to Hardy's claims occurred in this district.

## THE PARTIES

- 4. Hardy is an African-American Illinois resident who was employed by MDP from on or about October of 1999 until June 1, 2001, when her employment was terminated by MDP.
- 5. MDP is an Illinois corporation whose principal place of business is located in Chicago, Illinois.

### FACTS UNDERLYING HARDY'S LEGAL CLAIMS

- 6. Hardy was employed by MDP as an Administrative Assistant in its downtown Chicago headquarters.
- 7. Throughout the time she was employed by MDP, Hardy performed her job duties in a competent and professional manner. In in the performance evaluation Hardy received on January 19, 2001, she received a total score of 22 points, out of a maximum total score of 28 points, or 78.6 percent.
- 8. During 2000 and until her termination on June 1, 2001, Hardy was harassed and treated with disrespect by one of the MDP Associates for whom she worked. Also during that time, Hardy was the only African-American Administrative Assistant employed in that MDP office. Her mistreatment was so obvious that Hardy's co-workers commented on it and suggested that it was racially motivated.
- 9. Although Hardy complained to MDP management personnel about being mistreated in that manner, nothing was done to alleviate the problem.
- 10. On June 1, 2001, MDP informed Hardy that she was discharged, effective immediately. On information and belief, MDP replaced Hardy with a White employee.

11. MDP's decision to discharge Hardy was because of her race and/or because Hardy opposed MDP's racial discrimination against her with respect to the terms, conditions and privileges of her employment.

## **LEGAL CLAIM: SECTION 1981**

- 12. MDP's discrimination against and discharge of Hardy because of her race impaired Hardy's right to make and enforce contracts on the same basis as is enjoyed by White citizens, in violation of Section 1981.
  - 13. Hardy was injured by MDP's unlawful discrimination and by her unlawful discharge.

WHEREFORE, Hardy prays for entry of judgment in her favor and against MDP, and that she be awarded all appropriate relief available to her under Section 1981.

#### JURY DEMAND

Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 38(b), Hardy demands trial by jury of all matters appropriately tried by jury in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

One of the attorneys for the plaintiff

Terence J. Moran, Esq.
Frederick S. Rhine, Esq.
Gessler Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym
70 W. Madison, Suite 4000
Chicago, Illinois 60602
312/580-0100 firm number
312/604-2604 direct dial
312/580-1994 or 312/604-2641 fax lines

Case: 1:03-cv-03721 Document #: 1 Filed: 05/30/03 Page 4 of 5 PageID #:4

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT. NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, EASTERN DIVISION

JUN 0 3 2003

**CIVIL COVER SHEET** 

I. Plaintiff(s):

Romesa M. Hardy

Defendant: Madison Dearborn Partners, Inc.

County of Residence: Cook

County of Residence:

JUDGE CASTILLO

Plaintiff's Atty:

Terence J. Moran, Esq.

Gessler Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym, Ltd. 70 W. Madison, Suite 4000

Chicago, IL 60602

(312) 580-0100 general firm no.

(312) 604-2640 direct dial

Defendant's Atty:

MAGISTRATE SIDNEY I. SCHENKIER

II. Basis of Jurisdiction:

Federal Question (U.S. not a party)

III. Citizenship of Principal

Parties: (Diversity Cases Only)

Plaintiff:

Defendants:

IV. Origin:

**Original Proceeding** 

V. Nature of Suit:

442 Civil Rights Employment

VI. Cause of Action:

**Race Discrimination** 

42 U.S.C. § 1981)

VII. Requested in Complaint:

Class Action:

No

Dollar Demand:

To be determined

Jury Demand:

Yes

<u>VIII:</u> This case <u>IS NOT</u> a refiling of a previously dismissed case.

Signature:

Date:

May 30, 2003

Case: 1:03-cv-03721 Document #: 1 Filed: 05/30/03 Page 5 of 5 PageID #:5

# VATTED STATES DISTRICT COUP NEXTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

In the Matter of: ROMESA M. HARDY v. MADISON DEARBORN PARTNERS, INC.



Case Number:

**03**C

3C 3721

APPEARANCES ARE HEREBY FILED BY THE UNDERSIGNED AS ATTORNEY(S) FOR:

ROMESA M. HARDY

JUDGE CASTILLO

	- CO
MAGIS	TRATE SIDNEY I. SCHENKIER
	<b>为事</b> 易而
(A)	(B) O
SIGNATURE J. Morm / FLR	SIGNATURE Fredrick S. Rhini 3
NAME Terence J. Moran	NAME Frederick S. Rhine
Gessler Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym, Ltd.	Gessler Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym, Ltd.
STREET ADDRESS 70 W. Madison, Suite 4000	STREET ADDRESS 70 W. Madison, Suite 4000
CITY/STATE/ZIP Chicago, Illinois 60602	CITY/STATE/ZIP Chicago, Illinois 60602
TELEPHONE NUMBER (312) 580-0100	TELEPHONE NUMBER (312) 580-0100
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (SEE ITEM 4 ON REVERSE) 06185861	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (SEE ITEM 4 ON REVERSE) 06194079
MEMBER OF TRIAL BAR?  YES NO	MEMBER OF TRIAL BAR?  YES  YES  NO
TRIAL ATTORNEY? YES NO	TRIAL ATTORNEY? YES V NO
	DESIGNATED AS LOCAL COUNSEL?  YES NO
(C)	(D)
SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE
NAME	NAME
FIRM	FIRM
STREET ADDRESS	STREET ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP	CITY/STATE/ZIP
TELEPHONE NUMBER	TELEPHONE NUMBER
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (SEE ITEM 4 ON REVERSE)	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (SEE ITEM 4 ON REVERSE)
MEMBER OF TRIAL BAR? YES NO	MEMBER OF TRIAL BAR?  YES NO
TRIAL ATTORNEY? YES NO	TRIAL ATTORNEY? YES NO
DESIGNATED AS LOCAL COUNSEL?  YES NO	DESIGNATED AS LOCAL COUNSEL?  YES   VES